



American Model United Nations  
**Third Committee**

GA 3rd/II/3

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: The Improvement of the Situation of Women in Rural Areas

SUBMITTED TO: The Third Committee

SUBMITTED BY: Guinea-Bissau, Estonia, Cape Verde, Portugal, Netherlands, Mozambique, Ukraine, Ireland, Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Macedonia, Israel, Chile, Liberia, Norway, Colombia, United Kingdom, Egypt, Italy, El Salvador, Algeria, Cuba, Finland, Venezuela, Germany, United States of America, Malawi, Liechtenstein, Afghanistan, Ghana, Armenia, Australia

*The Third Committee*

1           *Recalling* Article 2.1 of the United Nations Charter, emphasizing sovereignty of  
2 Member States,

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4           *Reaffirming* the United Nations General Assembly Resolution 50/165 regarding  
5 improving the situation of rural women, specifically Clause 2 which invites States to  
6 incorporate the improvement of the situation of rural women in their national  
7 development strategies,

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9           *Further reaffirming* that Member States have committed 0.7% of their Gross  
10 Domestic Product to the work of the United Nations, including humanitarian aid  
11 programs,

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13           *Deeply concerned* that the economic crises in many developing countries have  
14 severely affected the socio-economic status of women, especially in rural areas, and the  
15 continuing rise in the number of rural women living in poverty,

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17           *Further recalling* the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of  
18 Women and the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth  
19 World Conference on Women in September 1995, highlighting the problems of rural  
20 women worldwide,

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22           *Recognizing* the importance of the Millennium Development Goals in improving  
23 the situation of rural women, particularly Goal 2 which aims to achieve universal primary  
24 education, and Goal 3 which promotes gender equality and empowerment of women,

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26 *Further recognizing* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the role it  
27 plays in protecting women's rights, particularly Article 26 relating to universal education  
28 to all,

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30 *Deeply convinced* that education is an essential mechanism to the empowerment  
31 of women, and that the low level of education of women is a serious impediment to the  
32 full enjoyment of human rights,

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34 *Alarmed by* the high rates of female illiteracy in many developing countries, low  
35 rates of girls' school enrollment and completion of schooling at all levels, and the  
36 persistence of structural barriers to education which include: extreme poverty, lack of  
37 infrastructure, and shortages of qualified teachers,

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39 *Welcoming* the growing awareness of Member States of the need for programs to  
40 improve the situation of women in rural areas,

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42 1. *Recommends* that Member States sign and/or ratify the Convention on the  
43 Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women;

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45 2. *Further recommends* Member States to continue to work with the international  
46 community, donor organizations, and non-governmental organizations towards the  
47 improvement of the situation of women in rural areas, particularly through the planning  
48 and implementation of:

49 (a) School feeding programs administered by UNICEF and other non-  
50 governmental organizations to increase school attendance;

51 (b) Provision of additional micro-loans within existing loan provision structures to  
52 parents who send their girls to schools;

53 (c) Institutes for Women and Children, based on the existing models created by  
54 governments and non-governmental organizations;

55 (d) Policies on women's empowerment, addressing microfinance, education,  
56 gender equality, healthcare, vocational training, equal opportunities for employment, and  
57 equal political representation;

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59 3. *Invites* Member States to implement awareness-raising campaigns to highlight  
60 the importance of girls' and women's education to society as a whole, especially in  
61 regards to:

62 (a) Overcoming misconceptions that constitute obstacles to girls' and women's  
63 education, with the aim of emphasizing the importance of school attendance;

64 (b) Developing non-stereotyped educational curricula that address structural  
65 causes of discrimination against women;

66 (c) Providing adequate and gender-sensitive training for teachers and school  
67 personnel;

68 (d) Ensuring that women and girls have access to safe educational settings that are  
69 free from violence and abuse;

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71           4. *Further invites* Member States to make strong efforts to improve the literacy  
72 level of girls and women through the adoption of comprehensive literacy programs at the  
73 formal and non-formal levels, and through adult education and training;  
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75           5. *Strongly encourages* all Member States to achieve the Millennium  
76 Development Goals by 2015.

Passed, Yes: 52 / No: 27 / Abstain: 17